

114TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 2174

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide for the preparation of career and technical education teachers.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 8, 2015

Mr. KAINE (for himself, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. PORTMAN, and Mrs. CAPITO) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

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## A BILL

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide for the preparation of career and technical education teachers.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Creating Quality Tech-  
5 nical Educators Act of 2015”.

1 **SEC. 2. PARTNERSHIP GRANTS FOR THE PREPARATION OF**  
2 **CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION**  
3 **TEACHERS.**

4 Section 202 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20  
5 U.S.C. 1022a) is amended—

6 (1) by redesignating subsections (f) through (k)  
7 as subsections (g) through (l), respectively;

8 (2) in subsection (b)—

9 (A) in paragraph (1), by inserting “and ca-  
10 reer and technical education teachers” after  
11 “early childhood educators”; and

12 (B) in paragraph (6)(C), by striking “sub-  
13 section (f) or (g)” and inserting “subsection (g)  
14 or (h)”;

15 (3) in subsection (c)—

16 (A) in paragraph (1), by inserting “a pro-  
17 gram for the preparation of career and tech-  
18 nical education teachers under subsection (f),”  
19 after “subsection (e),”; and

20 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking “sub-  
21 section (f)” and inserting “subsection (g)”; and

22 (4) by inserting after subsection (e) the fol-  
23 lowing:

24 “(f) PARTNERSHIP GRANTS FOR THE PREPARATION  
25 OF CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION TEACHERS.—

1           “(1) IN GENERAL.—An eligible partnership that  
2 receives a grant under this section to carry out a  
3 program for the preparation of career and technical  
4 education teachers shall establish an effective sec-  
5 ondary school career and technical education teacher  
6 preparation program that shall be—

7           “(A) available to mid-career professionals  
8 or recent graduates of an institution of higher  
9 education, who have expertise in a program  
10 area in which a skilled career and technical  
11 education teacher shortage has been identified  
12 through a needs assessment described in para-  
13 graph (2);

14           “(B) an opportunity for program partici-  
15 pants to obtain initial licensure based on State  
16 requirements and the basic skills required for  
17 entry into the education profession, and the op-  
18 tion of earning a bachelor’s degree or a mas-  
19 ter’s degree; and

20           “(C) an opportunity for program partici-  
21 pants who are current educators and who do  
22 not have subject matter expertise in a career  
23 and technical education field identified through  
24 the needs assessment under paragraph (2) to  
25 receive technical skills training to be able to ef-

1           fectively teach in a classroom setting the career  
2           and technical skills identified in such assess-  
3           ment based on industry standards.

4           “(2) NEEDS ASSESSMENT.—Each of the part-  
5           ners in an eligible partnership that receives a grant  
6           under this section to carry out a program for the  
7           preparation of career and technical education teach-  
8           ers shall conduct a needs assessment—

9                   “(A) with respect to the preparation, ongo-  
10                  ing training, professional development, and re-  
11                  tention of career and technical education teach-  
12                  ers in program areas linked to the education  
13                  and skill needs of the local or regional economy;  
14                  and

15                   “(B) that takes into account the current  
16                  needs of a State, local, or regional market, as  
17                  well as trends identified in section 102(b)(1)(B)  
18                  of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity  
19                  Act.

20           “(3) PARTICIPANT ELIGIBILITY, APPLICATION,  
21           AND SELECTION.—

22                   “(A) PARTICIPANT ELIGIBILITY.—In order  
23                  to be eligible to participate in a career and  
24                  technical education teacher preparation pro-  
25                  gram under this subsection, an individual—

1 “(i) shall—

2 “(I) have at least a bachelor’s de-  
3 gree;

4 “(II) have an active industry-rec-  
5 ognized credential in a technical pro-  
6 fession if the eligible partnership de-  
7 termines that the program leading to  
8 the credential is of high quality, and  
9 meets the State’s minimum require-  
10 ments for career and technical edu-  
11 cation teachers in the field, based ei-  
12 ther on years of related work experi-  
13 ence or a number of specified hours in  
14 the field; or

15 “(III) be a former member of the  
16 Armed Forces with a Department of  
17 Defense recognized active technical  
18 credential; and

19 “(ii) may be a licensed teacher with a  
20 need for technical skills training.

21 “(B) APPLICATION AND SELECTION.—

22 “(i) APPLICATION.—Each eligible in-  
23 dividual described in subparagraph (A)  
24 who desires to participate in the career  
25 and technical education teacher prepara-

1           tion program under this subsection shall  
2           submit an application to the eligible part-  
3           nership.

4           “(ii) SELECTION.—

5                   “(I) IN GENERAL.—Each eligible  
6                   partnership shall select applicants for  
7                   participation in the career and tech-  
8                   nical education teacher preparation  
9                   program based on the career and  
10                  technical education program needs of  
11                  any high-need local educational agen-  
12                  cies in the partnership.

13                  “(II) REQUIREMENT FOR VA-  
14                  CANT POSITIONS.—Any vacant career  
15                  and technical educator positions or  
16                  positions with a demonstrated connec-  
17                  tion to the needs assessment described  
18                  in paragraph (2) within the high-need  
19                  local educational agency in an eligible  
20                  partnership that receives a grant  
21                  under this section to carry out a pro-  
22                  gram for the preparation of career  
23                  and technical education teachers shall  
24                  be filled with career and technical

1 education teacher preparation pro-  
2 gram participants.

3 “(iii) RECRUITMENT.—An eligible  
4 partnership may develop and implement a  
5 teacher recruitment program to invite eligi-  
6 ble individuals to participate in the career  
7 and technical education program.

8 “(4) REQUIRED CLINICAL EXPERIENCE COMPO-  
9 NENTS.—Each career and technical education teach-  
10 er preparation program carried out under this sub-  
11 section shall include the following program compo-  
12 nents:

13 “(A) Training in pedagogy, including class-  
14 room management, lesson planning, student  
15 learning methods, and academic and career and  
16 technical education content integration.

17 “(B) Training in using empirically based  
18 practice and scientifically valid research in  
19 classroom instruction.

20 “(C) Necessary preparation to obtain a  
21 teaching license based on State licensing re-  
22 quirements in the State in which the partner-  
23 ship operates, prior to entering the classroom.

24 “(D) Literacy training for incorporating  
25 technical texts into the classroom.

1           “(E) At least 1 year of clinical experience  
2 concurrent with the pre-classroom training pro-  
3 gram.

4           “(F) Training to effectively teach technical  
5 skills to industry standards in a classroom set-  
6 ting.

7           “(G) For licensed teachers, technical skills  
8 and pedagogical training related to the career  
9 and technical education program they are in-  
10 tending to teach.

11           “(5) REQUIRED PRE-SERVICE COMPONENTS.—  
12 Each career and technical education teacher prepa-  
13 ration program carried out under this subsection  
14 shall require—

15           “(A) program participants, after com-  
16 pleting pre-classroom training and who have at  
17 least State recognized provisional licensure to  
18 teach, to be paired with a mentor teacher with  
19 expertise in teaching the same or similar con-  
20 tent for a period of not less than 2 years within  
21 the same school or school district, if available,  
22 and, if not available, the program shall specify  
23 how the program participant will be mentored;  
24 and



1           “(B) continuing professional development  
2 coursework for such program participants over  
3 the course of 3 years to ensure that such teach-  
4 ers—

5                   “(i) are able to understand and imple-  
6 ment research-based teaching practices in  
7 classroom instruction;

8                   “(ii) have knowledge of student learn-  
9 ing methods;

10                   “(iii) are data literate to continuously,  
11 effectively, and ethically access, interpret,  
12 act on, and communicate multiple types of  
13 data from State, local, classroom, and  
14 other sources to improve outcomes for stu-  
15 dents in a manner appropriate to edu-  
16 cators’ professional roles and responsibil-  
17 ities;

18                   “(iv) possess skills to analyze student  
19 academic and technical achievement data  
20 and other measures of student learning,  
21 and use such data and measures to im-  
22 prove classroom instruction;

23                   “(v) possess the skills to develop, im-  
24 plement, and utilize interim and formative

1 assessments to improve classroom instruc-  
2 tion;

3 “(vi) possess teaching skills and an  
4 understanding of effective instructional  
5 strategies across the technical and all ap-  
6 plicable academic content areas that enable  
7 such teachers to—

8 “(I) meet the specific learning  
9 needs of all students, including stu-  
10 dents with disabilities, students who  
11 are limited English proficient, stu-  
12 dents who are gifted and talented, and  
13 students with low literacy levels; and

14 “(II) differentiate instruction for  
15 such students;

16 “(vii) possess strategies for incor-  
17 porating content from noncareer and tech-  
18 nical education courses and standards for  
19 college and career into career and technical  
20 education courses;

21 “(viii) are able to effectively partici-  
22 pate as a member of an individualized edu-  
23 cation program team, as defined in section  
24 614(d)(1)(B) of the Individuals with Dis-  
25 abilities Education Act; and

1                   “(ix) are able to successfully employ  
2                   effective strategies for literacy instruction  
3                   in technical coursework.

4                   “(6) AGREEMENT TO SERVE.—

5                   “(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in  
6                   subparagraph (B), each career and technical  
7                   education teacher preparation program carried  
8                   out under this subsection shall require program  
9                   participants to serve as a full-time career and  
10                  technical education teacher in a high-need local  
11                  educational agency that is a part of the eligible  
12                  partnership for a total of not less than 3 aca-  
13                  demic years immediately after successfully com-  
14                  pleting the pre-classroom training program  
15                  component.

16                  “(B) SERVING LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGEN-  
17                  CIES OUTSIDE OF THE PARTNERSHIP.—If there  
18                  are no full-time career and technical education  
19                  teacher positions in a high-need local edu-  
20                  cational agency that is a part of the eligible  
21                  partnership, a program participant may fulfill  
22                  the service requirement under subparagraph  
23                  (A) through serving as a full-time career and  
24                  technical education teacher in a high-need local

1 educational agency that is not a part of the eli-  
2 gible partnership.

3 “(C) CERTIFICATION OF EMPLOYMENT.—  
4 A program participant under this subsection  
5 shall provide the eligible partnership with cer-  
6 tification of the employment that is required  
7 under this paragraph.

8 “(7) STIPENDS OR SALARIES; APPLICATIONS;  
9 REPAYMENTS.—

10 “(A) STIPENDS OR SALARIES.—A career  
11 and technical education teacher preparation  
12 program under this subsection shall provide a  
13 one-year living stipend or salary to program  
14 participants during the pre-classroom training  
15 program component.

16 “(B) APPLICATIONS FOR STIPENDS OR  
17 SALARIES.—Each career and technical edu-  
18 cation teacher preparation program participant  
19 desiring a stipend or salary during the pre-  
20 classroom training program component shall  
21 submit an application to the eligible partnership  
22 at such time, and containing such information  
23 and assurances, as the eligible partnership may  
24 require.

25 “(C) REPAYMENTS.—

1           “(i) IN GENERAL.—A grantee car-  
2           rying out a career and technical education  
3           teacher preparation program under this  
4           subsection shall require a recipient of a sti-  
5           pend or salary under subparagraph (A)  
6           who does not complete, or who notifies the  
7           partnership that the recipient intends not  
8           to complete, the service obligation required  
9           by paragraph (6) to repay such stipend or  
10          salary to the eligible partnership, together  
11          with interest, at a rate specified by the  
12          partnership in the agreement, and in ac-  
13          cordance with such other terms and condi-  
14          tions specified by the eligible partnership,  
15          as necessary.

16          “(ii) OTHER TERMS AND CONDI-  
17          TIONS.—Any other terms and conditions  
18          specified by the eligible partnership may  
19          include reasonable provisions for pro-rata  
20          repayment of the stipend or salary de-  
21          scribed in subparagraph (A) or for deferral  
22          of a program participant’s service obliga-  
23          tion required by paragraph (6), on grounds  
24          of health, incapacitation, inability to secure  
25          employment as a full-time career and tech-

1 nical education teacher, being called to ac-  
2 tive duty in the Armed Forces of the  
3 United States, or other extraordinary cir-  
4 cumstances.

5 “(iii) USE OF REPAYMENTS.—An eli-  
6 gible partnership shall use any repayment  
7 received under this subparagraph to carry  
8 out additional activities that are consistent  
9 with the purposes of this subsection.

10 “(8) REPORTS; PARENTS RIGHT-TO-KNOW; DE-  
11 VELOPMENT OF PERFORMANCE MEASURES.—

12 “(A) ANNUAL REPORT.—An eligible part-  
13 nership that receives a grant under this section  
14 to carry out a program for the preparation of  
15 career and technical education teachers shall  
16 submit to the Secretary and make publicly  
17 available, at such time and in such manner as  
18 the Secretary may require, an annual report  
19 that includes—

20 “(i) data on the eligible partnership’s  
21 progress on the performance measures de-  
22 scribed in section 204(a); and

23 “(ii) a description of the challenges  
24 the eligible partnership has faced in imple-  
25 menting the grant and how the eligible

1 partnership has addressed or plans to ad-  
2 dress such challenges.

3 “(B) PUBLICLY AVAILABLE.—Each eligible  
4 partnership that receives a grant under this  
5 section to carry out a program for the prepara-  
6 tion of career and technical education teachers  
7 shall complete and make publicly available, not  
8 later than 90 days after the grant period for  
9 such eligible partnership ends, an evaluation  
10 based on the evaluation plan described in sec-  
11 tion 204(a).

12 “(C) PARENTS RIGHT-TO-KNOW.—At the  
13 beginning of each school year, a high-need local  
14 educational agency that receives funds under  
15 this subsection shall—

16 “(i) notify the parents of each student  
17 attending any school receiving funds under  
18 this subsection that the parents may re-  
19 quest, and the agency will provide the par-  
20 ents on request (and in a timely manner),  
21 the information described in section  
22 1111(h)(6)(A) of the Elementary and Sec-  
23 ondary Education Act of 1965; and

1                   “(ii) provide to each such parent the  
2                   information and notice described in section  
3                   1111(h)(6)(B) of such Act.

4                   “(D) DEVELOPMENT OF PERFORMANCE  
5                   MEASURES.—The Secretary shall develop per-  
6                   formance measures prior to awarding grants  
7                   under this section, with input and consultation  
8                   of schools of education, school administrators,  
9                   teachers, professional non profit technical and  
10                  career organizations, and the opportunity for a  
11                  60-day public comment period. The Secretary  
12                  shall ensure that such measures are made avail-  
13                  able to potential applicants prior to seeking ap-  
14                  plications for such grants.”.

○